

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

With the apparatus according to the invention remote interrogation and/or remote control of operating states of a device (1), especially a household appliance or entertainment device, by a data service station (3) remote from the device occurs with a temporary telephone connection between the data service station and a data interface of the device. According to a first embodiment of the invention the apparatus includes an infrared data interface (2) provided in the device (1) and a commercially available mobile telephone (5) provided with an infrared interface (6) for data transmission. The mobile telephone (5) with the infrared interface (6) provides the temporary telephone connection for the remote interrogation and/or remote control. Alternatively the infrared data interface can be replaced by a radio transmitter operating according to the "Bluetooth" principle and the mobile telephone can have a "Bluetooth" interface.